[Translation]

Production and Supply of Coal in the Country

522. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been constant gap between the production and supply of coal in the country for the last three years;

(b) if so, the quantum of gap during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have fixed the priority of the various coal consuming sectors in view of demand and supply of the coal; and

(d) if so, the percentage of the coal decided to be supplied for consumption in power, iron, cement and other coal consuming sectors, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). Indigenous coal production and its offtake from the mines of Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited along with gap during the last three years are as follows :

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Production	Offtake	Gap
1993-94	241.30	241.85	(+)0.55
1994-95	248.72	247.09	(-)0.63
1995-96	264.05	264.47	(+)0.42

(c) and (d). Priority in coal supply is given to linked consumers in the core sector like power, steel and cement. During 1995-96, out of the targetted offtake, 65.18% was allocated to power sector, 8.78% to steel sector and 5.53% to cement sector and balance 20.51% to other consumers.

[English]

Modernisation of Indian Navy

523 SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are plans to modernise the Indian Navy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N V N SOMU) : (a) and (b). Modernisation of naval assets like ships, submarines, aircraft and the naval bases is a continuous process. Due attention is given to keep these assets updated and in a state of preparedness. The Indian Navy is also re-equipped and modernised in keeping with the emerging threat perceptions. In order to ensure that ships, submarines and aircraft do not suffer from technological obsolescence, they undergo normal modernisation during their mid-life refits. In addition, retrofitment of special systems and force multipliers is taken up depending on specific requirements. Modernisation is always a consideration while going for major acquisitions and projects.

[Translation]

Misuse of Money

524. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether public money is being misused by spreading the transport network though the dumping yards are marely two kilometers away from the coal mines of Central Coalfields Limited in Giridih and Baniadih coalfields;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the annual expenditure incurred under the head of transportation in this coalfield;

(d) whether coal can also be dumped in the nearby hundreds acres of land, and

(e) if so, the reasons for incurring the huge expenditure on transportation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (e) CIL have denied that there is any misuse of money in transporting coal from production points in Giridih which is also known as Baniadih coalfields to the despatch point. As reported by CIL there are several different production points in this coalfield. The coal is transported from the production points to the railway sidings for despatch to power plants. Coal is also transported to a central and convenient point for despatch/sale by road. The expenditure on coal transportation in Giridih Coalfield and reimbursement received against the same during the year 1994-95 (as per financial accounts) is as follows

(Rs in lakhs)

	Data Provisional
Coal Transportation	82.22
Reimbursement	45.36
Net Expenditure Incurred	36.86

According to the information received from CIL, the present dumpyard site has been decided on consideration of various factors such as availability